

## • Abroad •

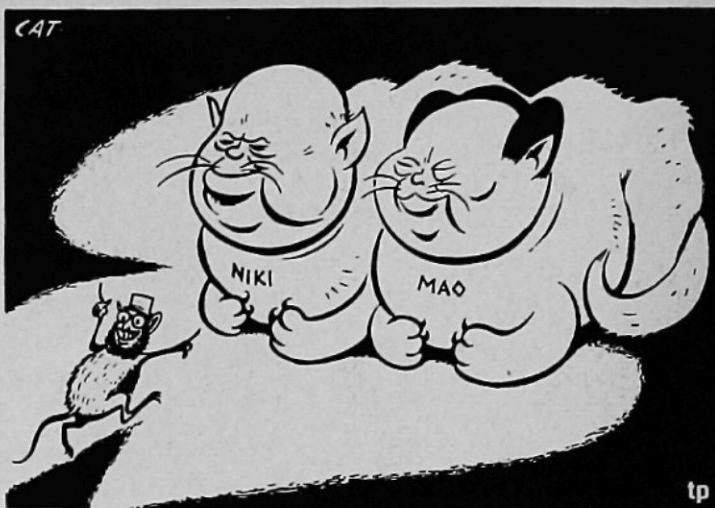
**Havana.** Americans have reason to recall the name of Mikhailovitch Kudrayavtsev, whom Moscow has just sent to Cuba as Ambassador. As First Secretary of the Canadian Embassy, Kudrayavtsev ran the atomic espionage ring that was blown by the defection of Igor Gouzenko in 1946. Kudrayavtsev got out of Canada immediately, with a load of secret documents. In 1947 Moscow sent him back to the American continent, this time as a member of the Soviet UN delegation; but the memory of the Canadian affair was too fresh, and after protest he was forced to leave. He was then kept under wraps for several years in Moscow, to cool off. In 1952 he reappeared, again at a nerve center of the cold war: quadripartite Vienna, a key base of Soviet espionage. There he posed as one of the Embassy Secretaries. As Austria declined in importance, Kudrayavtsev was shifted to West Germany, where in 1956 he ranked as the Embassy's "Minister-Counselor," just after the Ambassador in protocol. In 1957 he appeared in Paris. On August 22, 1960, he arrived in Havana to begin his crowning mission.

**Taipei.** Officials of the Republic of China note with satisfaction that, in spite of the unrelenting campaign waged to isolate and liquidate it diplomatically, its official relations with other nations have continued to expand. Free Chinese diplomatic or consular missions are now formally recognized in 49 nations. In Taipei, the foreign diplomatic colony has expanded to 110, representing 21 nations. The Free Chinese regular foreign service numbers 210 home employees, 468 stationed abroad. Relations have just been established with Cyprus and several of the new African nations, including Senegal, Mali and (formerly French) Congo, and it is believed that West Germany may soon establish formal diplomatic ties.

**London.** Two years ago the British Government opened the gate wide, for the first time in England, to "hire purchase" (installment buying); so wide that it has been partly closed again for the past few months, while everyone takes financial breath. One result that was optimistically unpredicted has been a huge rise in the number of prisoners turned over to jailors by County Courts (from 928 in 1953 to 4,821 last year). Most of this new wave are hire purchase debtors—for in today's as in Dickens' England, debtors can be sent to jail. The prison commissioners are very unwilling hosts. "We view with misgiving," they declare in a recent statement, "the effect of this development on our limited accommodation."

**Tel Aviv.** Israel, cut off from all but illegal trade with her neighbors by the Arab League boycott, is making strenuous and increasingly successful efforts to jump over the barrier into Africa and the Far East. A joint Israeli-Japanese tuna fishing company has been formed, and Japanese may build the planned railway from the Dead

Sea to Aqaba. Israeli engineers and other technicians are active in Burma. Solel Boneh, Israel's largest construction company, has just made a partnership agreement with an East Nigerian outfit. Another Israeli company is building roads in Liberia. In Ethiopia and Ghana there are Israeli teachers, public health experts and agricultural technicians, and even a few military specialists.



"Cuba has strong friends!"

**Kaliningrad.** A rare first-hand report has come from this city, the former Koenigsberg, incorporated into the Soviet Union under the terms of the Potsdam Conference. In earlier days Koenigsberg was one of the great commercial centers of the Hanseatic League and residence of the Grand Masters of the Teutonic Order. It was the capital of Prussia, and home of Immanuel Kant, who is buried beside the hilltop Gothic Cathedral. On April 9, 1945 the Communists sacked it after a two-month siege. Our informant states that today it is still in a condition of utter devastation, its population less than half of the prewar 388,000. "It seems as though the war was only yesterday. You see evidence of it in every street."

**Pnom Penh, Cambodia.** In this remote neutralist Indo-chinese state, ambassadors of both East and West have been earning their keep in recent days literally by the sweat of their brows. They have been invited by Cambodia's energetic and enterprising Head of State, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, to appear in *tenue de travail* (work clothes) to assist him in laying the foundations of the railway which will in time link this capital city to the new port of Sihanoukville. And work they have for the past few days, shoveling mountains of dirt into baskets, spurred on not only by the example of Cambodia's pudgy ruler, digging away in shorts and singlets, but by a hot jazz accompaniment. The morning's labors are followed by an exquisite French meal, washed down by ice cold champagne, after which the Western diplomats excuse themselves. But not so the unfortunate Communists who feel they must stand by their proletarian credo and put in an afternoon stint as well.

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